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PREHISTORIC ART

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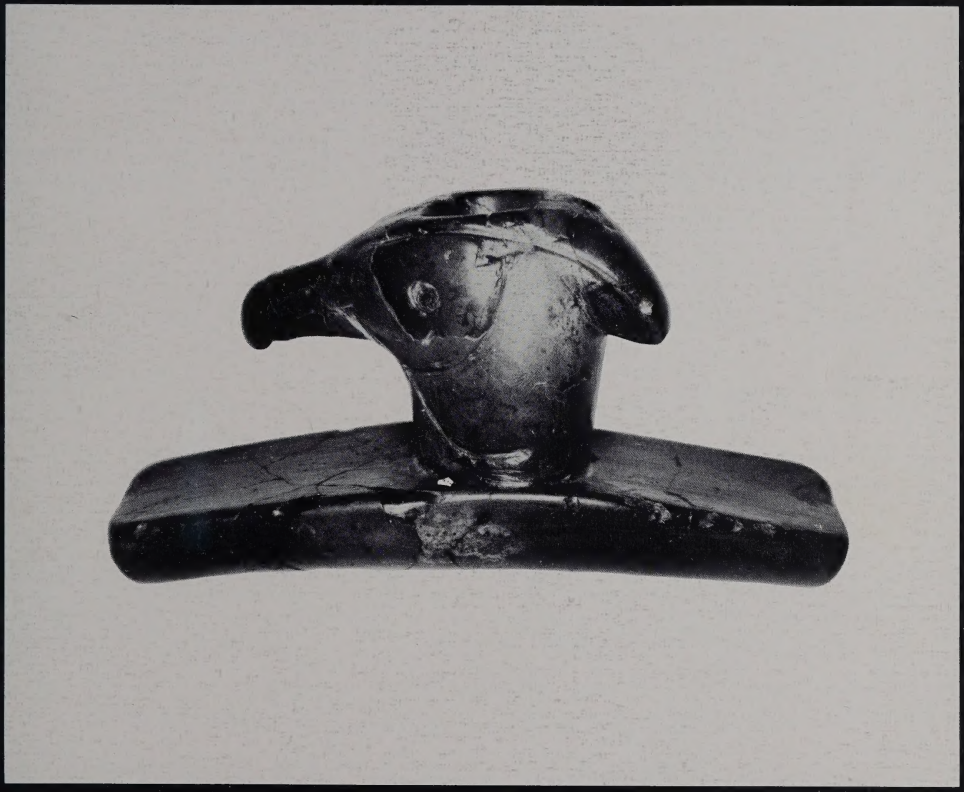

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Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The specific objective of the society is to further the study and understanding of the history and artifacts of Prehistoric Man and to develop this by providing a medium of publication for related material and articles of interest by both professional and amateur archaeologists.

EDITORIAL

HOW TO RUIN RELICS

Every year the existing quantity of authentic relics becomes more valuable, directly due to the destruction of a portion of those relics by individuals with no foresight what so ever. This article will expose a few case histories of how relics have been ruined. In other words it's a do's and don'ts. The do's are simple. Do everything to a relic to preserve, document and safely store it. Don'ts are as follows.

A small group of collectors in Ohio like to clean banded slate birdstones, bannerstones, gorgets and pendants. This includes removal of all old tags, which are either destroyed after removal or if in ink are removed entirely. I recently saw a quadra concave Adena gorget offered for sale at a meeting and recognized it as one I had once owned. I asked the collector offering it if he knew anything about it other than his price. His reply was "No, but it's a beauty." His asking price was low, however; I would not purchase it. It made me sick to view it, as prior to its scrubbing it had worn Leslie Hill's tag, Dr. T.Hugh Young's tag, B.W. Stephen's 1st collection tag, Cameron Park's tag, and my tag with its Genuine Indian Relic Society authentication number. Not only did its current owner not know it had authentication papers, he also didn't know its true provience or that it is pictured six different places in old publications. I rest case number one.

A collector of birdstones recently took six of his flock to be viewed by a fellow compatriot, the purpose of the viewing was to be a proposed trade on a fine bannerstone. Collector number two was appalled at the ultra clean condition each bird had recently been given. The scrubbing not only shined 'em up, but removed almost all the patina including the rounding of the once sharp median ridges. Sure they are authentic birdstones, but who wants them in that condition? I can assure you not collector number two. I rest case number two.

I recently saw a double crescent bannerstone that I knew. It had sold at auction very high and then passed through a couple of hands over the period of two years. It had been washed, oiled, washed and oiled again so that in that short time it had turned from a light brown to a dull dripping oil black and was only recognizable by its original shape. Each owner was responsible for just a little scrubbing and oiling, so I'm sure in their minds no harm was done. Had any one of them only known. I rest case number three.

Flint; it's okay to lightly wash it in mild soap and water. But don't ever use chemicals or abrasives or acid as some I know have done. Sure it makes 'em shine. It makes them look just like the better fake flint being chipped out and aged today. Got a broken or slightly damaged point? Please don't repoint it. I'd much rather own a fine dovetail with an originally damaged tip, or even one that is professionally restored than even look at a rechip. I rest case number four.

How do you get more money for your dull axes? It's easy. Just sand them lightly to restore or I should say add a high polish. If hand sanding is too slow, use a belt sander. The fellows doing this usually follow up by waxing the ax and presto a highly polished relic is born. Of course the top ax collectors will have nothing to do with these altered, worthless relics, but they sure are pretty. I rest case number five.

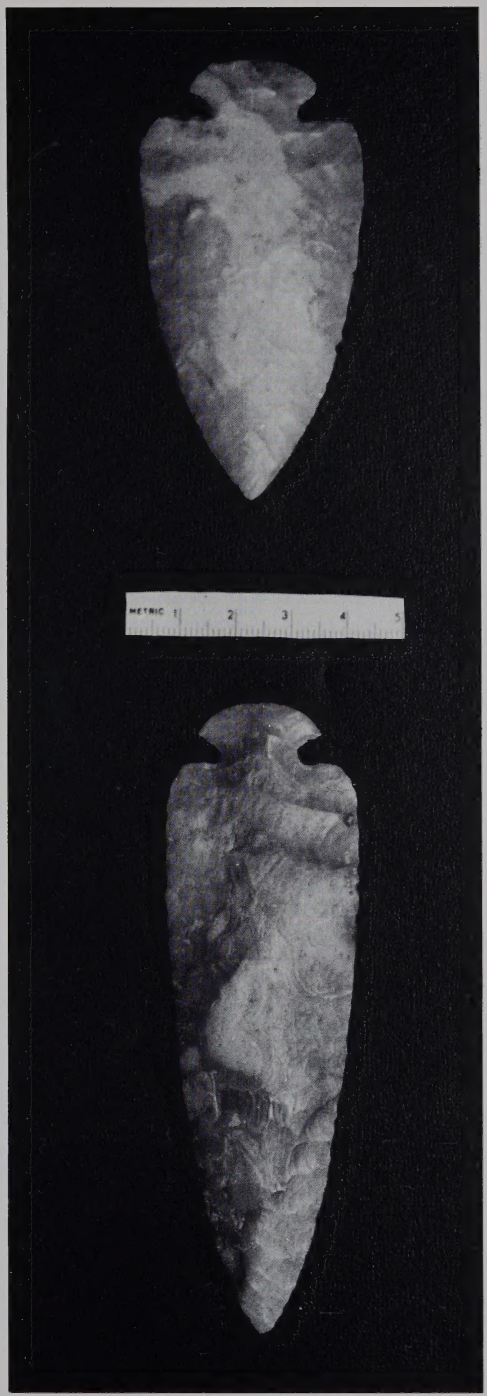
A group of Indiana excavators and a few University and museum digging teams subject the stone ceremonials recovered to a light acid bath. I'm sure the relics I viewed were authentic, but I knew this fact from the photos of site and excavation documentation and not by viewing the relic. They wanted to remove all the crusty grave stain and see what the relic looked like when it was made. If I were to see some of these relics for sale on dealers tables, I wouldn't touch'em with a pogo stick. I rest case number six.

Repaint your pots, bleach your phenocrysts, polish your porphyry, scour your slate, boil your banners in oil, grind your ceremonials with an apothecary mortar and pestal for an aphrodisiac as a bearded acquaintance of mine here in Michigan does; do it all, but you won't top this last one. This story is a classic example of how to ruin a relic. Some personal requirements preclude the story. Have little knowledge if any as to whether a relic is authentic. Talk negatively about others relics, even though you have never personally seen them. Have more money than brains and most important of all, blow off a lot to cover up all your shortcomings.

Recently this so-called collector privately out-bid several others and acquired a top authentic Indian artifact. He used the judgment of an old time collector friend to verify authentication prior to purchase. Whenever he attended relic functions he solicited opinions as to how fine this relic was. At this point in time everything was fine; major authorities vouched for its authenticity, several asked if it could be purchased. The relic was the envy of many. The first mistake was made by this fellow when he desired for the relic to be more beautifully colored, so he gave it a bath. Not your Tuesday or Thursday go to bed bath, but your Saturday night scrub up and go to town version. With its new look the relic was shoved back in fellow collectors noses and now the question was asked, "What is wrong with this relic?" Most viewing it weren't considered authorities, most viewing it didn't know if anything was wrong or not, but if its owner was questioning it maybe they better question it also. The seed of doubt became spoken truth and reality was destroyed because of a destructive obsession of certain people not qualified to judge. The story from

here gets long and boring, but I think you get the point. It can be proven in a court of law that the relic is authentic. I can guarantee that after the rumors, this relic has little if any value to any collector previously interested in it. No credibility, no value. I rest this last case.

Relics come out of the ground with a heavy age old mother nature put there over a period of hundreds even thousands of years. In some cases that proper age is all that stands between one being able to tell if a relic be authentic or fake. Creation marks and an advanced study of prehistoric art forms are being studied and duplicated by the faker today. The proper field grade of age is worth its weight in gold. Grind your granite, re-flake your flint, S.O.S. your slate; your dastardly deed is one up on the fakers. It makes authentic relics look like fakes. It makes fakes easier for the fake dealers to sell claiming the goods are just cleaned. It makes the non cleaned, non bad mouthed, documented relics a rare commodity more valuable than gold.



TWO OHIO FLINTRIDGE DOVETAILS

TOP-Originally collected by Irvin Dougherty this dove displays the colors cream, orange and a brilliant yellow. A perfect little jewel.

Collection of Don Youngman,
Benton Harbor, Michigan

BOTTOM-Found in Henry County, Indiana by Forrest B. Wiley. Its colors of cream, brown, gold and yellow are only out done by this doves perfect shape and style.

Collection of John Baldwin, West Olive, Michigan

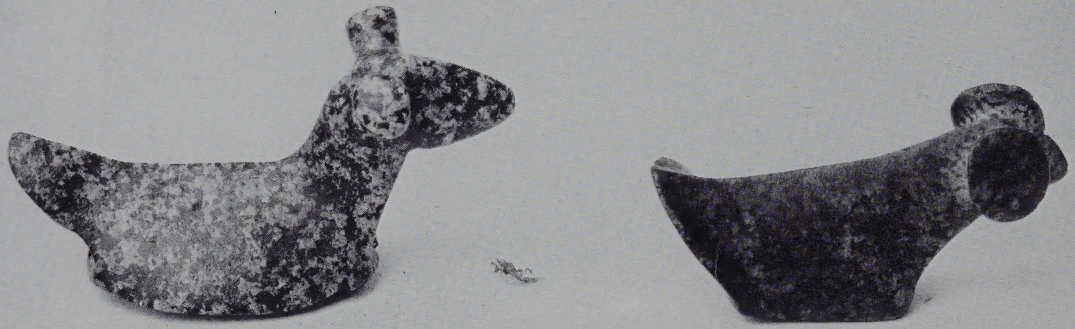
Jos. Ringeisen Jr coll. Mil. Wis. Actual size

Found in Erie co - Penn

Found in Pike co Ohio

Found in Scioto co Ohio.

Jos. Ringeisen Jr. Coll. Mil. Wis. Actual size.
Found in Washington Co. Wis. Found in Joliet Ill

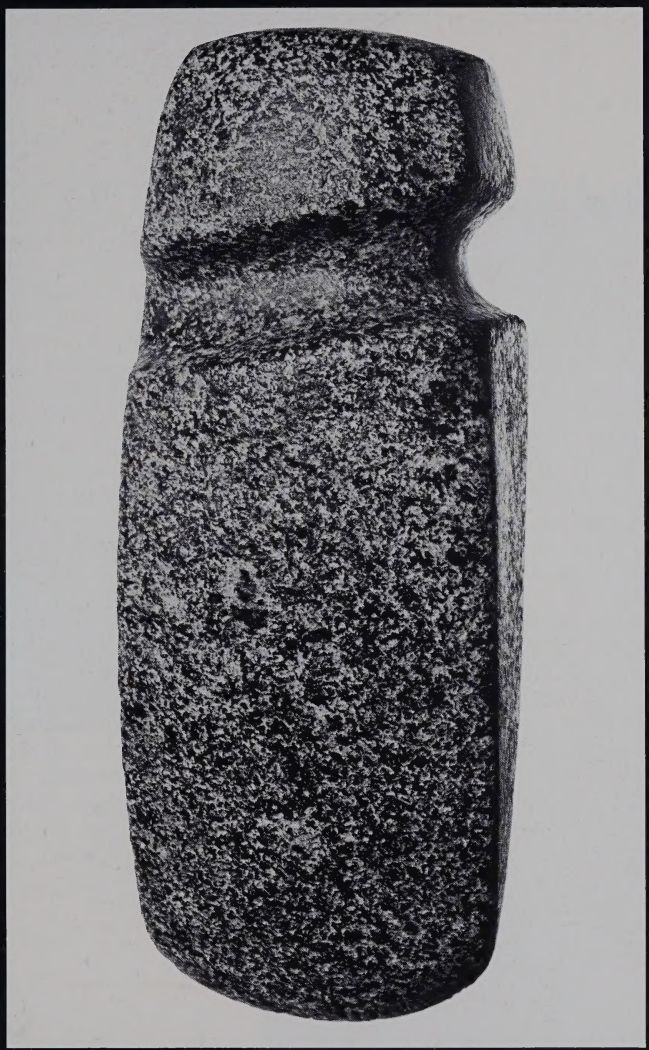


These old photographs were taken prior to 1940. Joseph Ringeisen Jr. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin collected over 100 authentic birdstones from the early 1900's until the purchase of his collection of birds by G.I. Groves of Chicago. Groves directly sold the majority of the Ringeisen birds to Dr. T. Hugh Young. These photos were part of Ringeisen's documentation. The written information is in Ringeisen's hand and attests to each birdstones information. All these birds are pictured in Earl C. Townsend Jr's. *Birdstones Of The North American Indian.*

Photos Courtesy Of Treva Heichel, Sturgis, Michigan

It is rare that we in historic times get a chance to view how the relics we collect were actually hafted and mounted. This axe and original handle were found in a dry cave in the West. The axe head is probably of the Archaic or Woodland period, although it is known that stone groved axes were made up to and into early historic times. There is no doubt that the wood and hide twine wrapped handle is several hundred years old. It is evident by the care that was taken that the owner-maker thought a lot of this weapon-tool. We are lucky the circumstances allowed us a look at how it was really done.

Collection of Gary Litherland, Kankakee, Illinios



This fine 3/4 grooved axe was fashioned from what is called wiry granite. That term come from the fact that the coloration in the stone looks like little wires pushed into the light color background. Large fine made axes are rare and highly collectable.

Collection of Art Gerber, Tell City, Indiana

KING CLOVIS

By John Baldwin

Arthur C. (Judge) King collected Indian relics from the late 1800's until his death in 1963. His collection, which the estate sale, sale bill listed as 250,000 Indian relics, was housed on the second floor of his relic and antique museum at Toms River, New Jersey. The early and mid 1900's saw many visitors interested in archaeology visiting the King Museum from all over the world. Judge King boasted that his was the largest Indian relic collection in the world. The 10 chair conference table in the center of one of the museum relic rooms was the scene of many meetings and discussions about relics with Judge King and most of the leading archaeologists from our nation's Eastern Museums and Universities.

King was one of the buyers at the famous Edward Payne sale in 1936 which provided some of the relics for his large collection.

The estate sale of the King Museum relics was held for a three day period, May 21, 22 and 23, 1964. Several Universities were present to acquire material of interest for their archives. Many prominent collectors also attended. Dr. E.J. Bowser from York, Pennslyvania was in attendance for the purpose of adding Paleo material (his specialty) to his selective Eastern Paleo collection. Dr. Bowser competitively bid against Stan Copeland, Columbus, Ohio, B.W. Stephens, Quincy, Illinois and Willis Tilton, Topeka, Kansas, before he successfully purchased what he felt was the outstanding fluted clovis of the King collection. The King Clovis enjoyed the distinction of being Dr. Bowsers finest fluted Paleo also. This clovis and several other large fluted points were mounted in a frame while on display in the King Museum. These fluted points were removed and sold separately at the sale. The provience provided by the King Museum records listed this clovis as being found in Pope County, Minnesota. It is believed King acquired this point from the Payne sale. The material used to create this relic, at this writing, is believed to be Carter Cave flint which originates in Kentucky. Some think it is Ohio flintridge material, but most don't have any idea what the material really is. The King Clovis displays a white streak and a peppering of red paprika dots mixed with the creamy pink translucent base color. Fluted points of exotic unidentifiable material are often found. This is probably due to the Paleo time period and the nomadic habits of that culture. This point reminds me of the scene James Mitchner so colorfully wrote in *Centennial* where the prehistoric artist flintknapper carefully fluted his masterpiece creation and gave the beautiful spear point to one of the tribe's best hunters.

A long deep flute is the creation function that requires the most skill. The prehistoric artist responsible for making the "Judge King-Doctor Bowser, fluted clovis" demonstrated his superior ability using a gem quality material. His work stands as a tribute to him as an artist and his ancient culture of prehistoric Americans.

"KING CLOVIS" Pope County, Minnesota. 4 and ¾ inches long. The photos illustrate both sides of this Paleo creation. It was fashioned from a creamy pink translucent flint that has a high gloss. Dark red and a peppering of red paprika dots and a streak of white on one side near the tip highlite this beautiful material.

Collection of John Baldwin, West Olive, Michigan

CRIB MOUND EFFIGY PIPE

By Don Champion, Tell City, Indiana

I found this perfect little frog effigy pipe at the Crib Mound-Spencer County, Indiana-in the mid 1960's. A woodchuck had opened a burrow hole in the area of the lower or down stream mound area. Most of this second mound had been washed away years earlier. As I examined the freshly dug dirt I realized that it contained very deteriorated human bones. The woodchuck's entrance hole had bisected the chest area of the prehistoric burial. Little of this adult male burial remained as it lay just below the surface and had decomposed to almost obliteration over the hundreds of years. The skull was up hill from the river and the woodchuck hole. Careful excavation of the remains and skull revealed the small platform pipe nested beside the left ear. No other artifacts were found in the same or adjacent area. A few years before this burial was discovered a large fragment of pottery was found as it was protruding from the ground. As it was being removed a green colored curved base Hopewell pipe of Ohio pipestone was found. It had apparently been ceremonialy killed as both ends had been broken off. As best as memory could recall the two pipes were close together when buried. The frog effigy pipe is highly polished and appears to portray a tadpole changing into a frog. The block of pipestone from which it was created also changes shade and texture. Perhaps the prehistoric maker was influnced by the change of material as well as the change of the frog from a tadpole. This was the last fine relic I was to find at the Crib Mound. To my knowledge it is the only Hopewell effigy platform pipe to have been found at this rich prehistoric site.

EDITORS NOTE

At the joint Genuine Indian Relic Society and Wolverine State Archaeological Society, Fathers Day meeting, June 19, 1983 at my home Don Champion displayed this fine pipe and his famous Crib Mound owl pipe. Don and his wife stayed an extra day and this gave me the enjoyable time to carefully examine both pipes. Sunday night Don's owl and my Townsend eagle pipe spent the night side by side in my museum case. It must be true that different species don't mix as with the coming of dawn, no new little pipes could be seen.

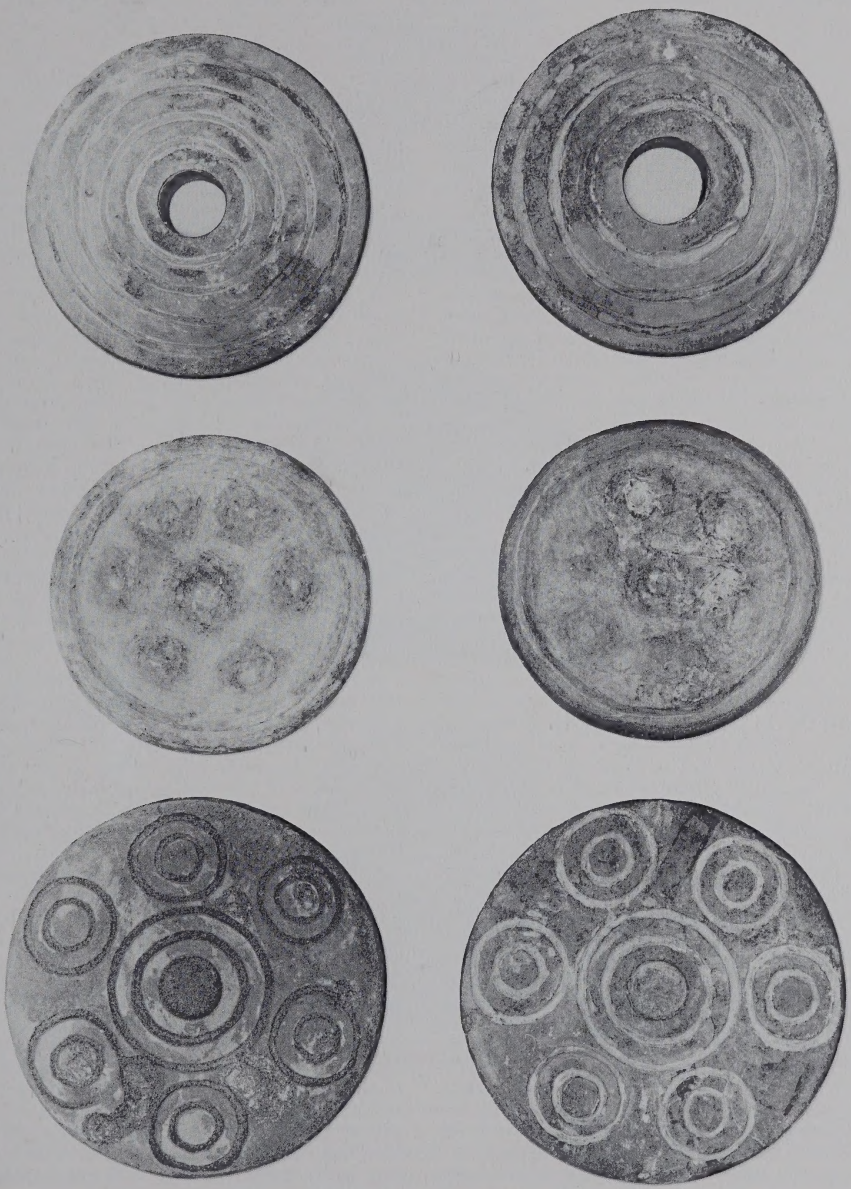
Don's little frog effigy pipe is a jewel. It is fashioned from red Ohio pipestone that many times is miss identified as catlinite. The workmanship it displays is a little different from any other Hopewell pipe I have studied. I believe it is very late. Many of the features remind me of the work done on the red pipestone sun disc pipes. The true knowledge of cultural inhabitancies at the Crib Mound area at this writing is believed to span from early Archaic thru late Woodland with a smattering of all the cultures inbetween. Hopewell relics of varing form have been found all along the Ohio River. This was surely a major trade route and living area. I thank Don Champion for sharing his relics with us.

Frog or tadpole effigy pipe of the Hopewell curved base type. Found at the Crib Mound by Don Champion. The material is a red Ohio pipestone. The pipe is 2 and 1/2 inches long and 1 and 3/8 inches high. It has 5 hash or tally marks on the top of the stem and 2 tally marks on the bottom side of the stem. Spencer County, Indiana.

Collection of Don Champion, Tell City, Indiana

Cut shell beads and other shell relics from the Spiro Mound. Le Flore County, Oklahoma.

Collection of Gordon Hart, Bluffton, Indiana



Three pair of Spiro Mound ear spools. These show the different cut designs used to decorate the shalestone ear ornaments. Le Flore County, Oklahoma.

Collection of Gordon Hart, Bluffton, Indiana

PREHISTORIC WOOD DUCK OF THE GRAND RIVER

By John Baldwin

Michigan is rich with prehistoric occupation sites and is a treasure trove for prehistoric stone relics. Public awareness of Michigan archaeology in the form of collecting, preserving and recording information on this heritage is headed on a growing interest level. The relic collector of past years is now recording and documenting his collection. The founding of the Wolverine State Archaeological Society in 1982 and its affiliation with the Central States Archaeological Society Inc., (Both non-profit organizations) provides the Michigan members an opportunity to publish, (via their quarterly publication) articles and information concerning significant relics. Relic finds and their information is more and more becoming valuable archaeological and public information that previously was locked away in storage drawers. The interested public is no longer satisfied to view a prehistoric relic through glass and not be able to study its history via easily accessible published matter. These facts are responsible for the snowballing interest in this Michigan heritage by the general public, student archaeologist and Indian relic collector.

The Norton Mound group is a well recorded Hopewell occupation in Kent County, Michigan, along the Grand River.This prehistoric culture's earth work mounds and burial sites are now partially covered by a modern civilizations occupation presently known as Grand Rapids, Michigan. The prehistoric culture known as Hopewell (200 B.C. to 500 A.D.) flourished north of the Ohio River with it's heaviest concentration in lower Illinois and south central Ohio. The funeral practice of intering the revered in mound earthworks and enriching those burials with artifacts of distinct cultural significance is a known Hopewell trait. This culture had a vast network of trade and travel. They procured obsidian from the Eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, sharks teeth and conch shells from along the Gulf of Mexico, galina, mica and steatite from Georgia and the East coast. They frequented the flint quarries in Ohio to procure the colorful Ohio flintridge, Indiana to obtain the gray Hornstone flint and Illinois for Crescent Hills and Kaolin flint with its varying colors from stark white through pinks and yellows. Ohio pipestone found in the Portsmouth, Ohio area was also gathered for pipe making. They used these resource areas to acquire rare and unusual raw materials which were fashioned into the superior artforms that represented their culture.

Native copper for use as tools as well as artform relics, was acquired from northern Michigan. Could the Norton Mound group have been a stopping off place for the copper gatherers on their way to southern Illinois and Ohio? Was it an attempt by the Hopewell people to expand their civilization, or did a group break away looking for greener pastures and found them in Michigan? Maybe part, maybe all or maybe none of the above. They were here, however; and did thrive for a long period of time as a successful culture in western Michigan.

Grand Rapids is not unique in the fact that it is built over a prehistoric village and burial site. What was good for prehistoric man is also good for modern man. High ground, easy access to water, two or more rivers converging, and a bend in a river are all desirable places to build a community. In fact many of our nation's large cities stand atop the village sites of long since vanished Americans.

Early random excavation of the portion of the Norton Mound Association known as the Converse Component under downtown Grand Rapids by road and building crews, property owners and the interested is well documented. This was done at a time when foresight and documentation was not considered. Hopefully we learn from our mistakes. The relics of the past are desirable artforms, but coupled with their history, information and circumstances, the value becomes invaluable as long as that knowledge is made available to anyone interested in it.

A phone call from a party interested in acquiring relic information prompted my viewing of one of the truly rare Hopewell artifacts; a platform effigy pipe created from Ohio pipestone. There are very few authentic Hopewell effigy pipes in private hands. Most reside in a few of our major museums where the bulk of the professionally excavated Hopewell material is housed. The majority of all the Hopewell platform effigy pipes were ritually broken or cremated prior to their burial. This specimen was no exception. When I first saw it, it was carefully nested in a small, light blue cardboard jewelry box. Atop the cotton lining of the box were 28 fragmentary pieces of the pipe. A quick assemblage of the larger parts indicated to me that all the major pieces were there. The owner's father had excavated the pipe many years before while doing service work on an old sewer line beneath the streets of downtown Grand Rapids. I was told that the pipe was referred to as "Daddy's peace pipe." The family members would all laugh and say, "Yes, it's in a lot of pieces." The pipe was carefully kept in it's little blue box and the attempt to glue it back together was never made because on several occasions of handling a new fragment would break away.

The challenge of uniting the fragments and thus restoring and preserving this relic awaited me. With a mild soap solution and a stiff bristled artist's brush, I cleaned each fragment. The cremation prior to or during burial had caused the pipestone to discolor and become very brittle. The discoloration is darker on some of the fragments. They

CENTER-Right side view of the wood duck Hopewell effigy pipe. It was found in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan when repairs were being done to a city sewer line. Downtown Grand Rapids area is the Michigan Hopewell called the Converse component of the Goodall Focus. The pipe was found in fragmented pieces due to its cremation either prior to or during burial. Ohio pipestone material.

TOP-An Ohio pipestone Hopewell platform pipe. St. Louis County, Missouri. 4 and 1/4 by 1 and 3/4 inches high. G.I.R. S. Authentication #L2.

BOTTOM-An Ohio pipestone Hopewell platform pipe. Franklin County, Ohio. 4 and 1/2 by 1 and 7/8 inches high. G.I.R.S. Authentication #L4.

Collection of John Baldwin, West Olive, Michigan

presumably got hotter or burned longer in the ceremonial burning of the pipe. Ohio pipestone is a form of indurant claystone or siltstone. Under the temperatures of smoking materials it is basically stable. Pipestone is very absorbent and I needed to use a glue that would penetrate the stone and hold it together as well as reunite the pieces. The liquid super glue type bonding material was chosen to do this. However; two cautions had to be observed. One, not use an excess that would smear on the surface and two, make sure the fragments were placed together properly and in the proper sequence as once glued it was together forever. Several of the pieces fragmented while I was working with them. I also had to break one piece as a calculation error prevented it from fitting any other way. A total of 33 pieces reconstructed the pipe to within 98% of its original form. The missing slivers and parts were either never originally recovered or they were lost over the years. I used green candle wax mixed with carbon to fill in the missing sections and fill the cracks. The hot wax flows deep into crevices and its coloration matches the original stone. The excess wax was removed with wood splints. The wood, used in a scraping manner, would not harm the original surface. The wax can be entirely removed by placing the pipe near heat should a more suitable replacement material become available.

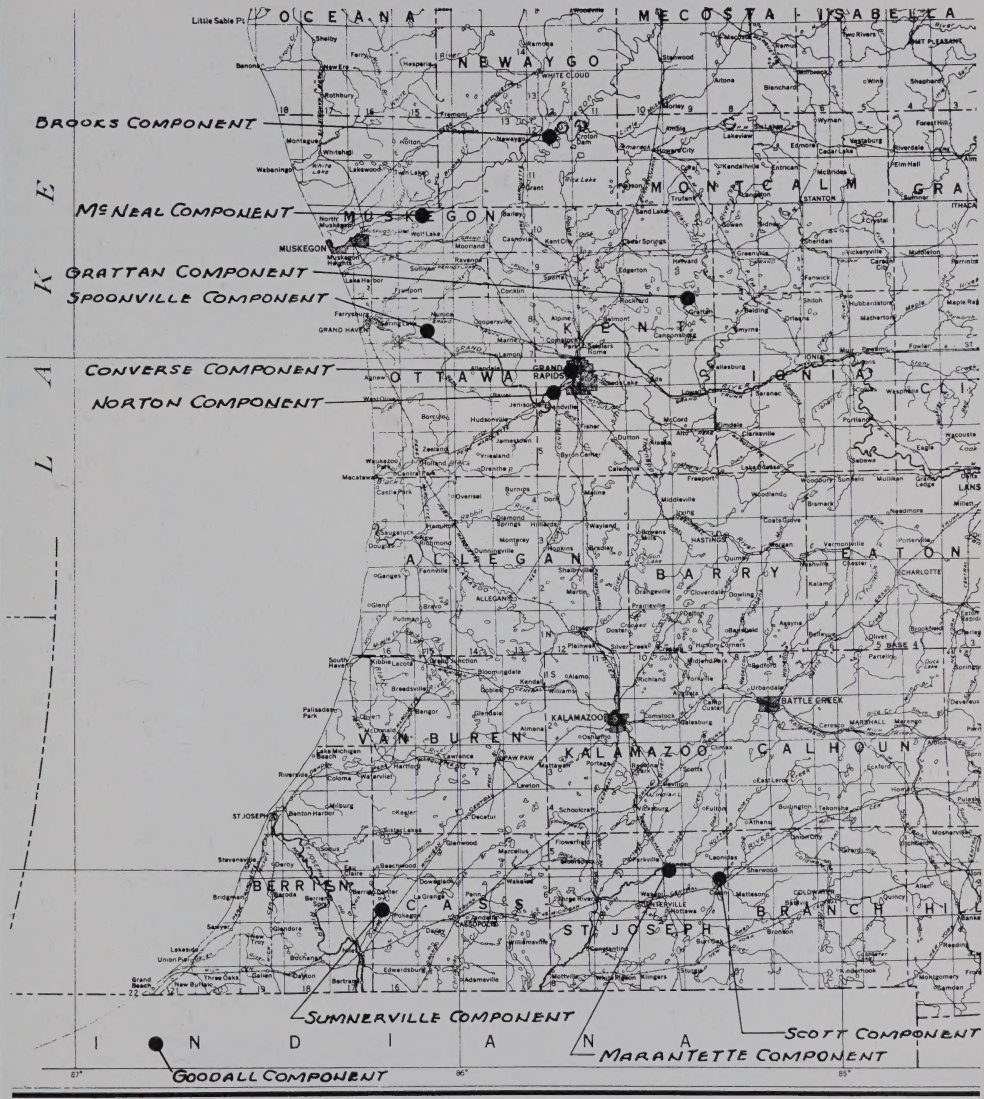
This effigy is believed to be that of a Wood Duck. The top beak hook at its end is not typical of the Wood Duck, but this hook feautre is a classic Hopewell shape trait seen on many of their bird effigies. Under the supervision of the University of Michigan, the main mounds of the Norton Mound group were excavated several years ago. These big mounds are located west of Grand Rapids between the Gerald R. Ford Expressway and the Grand River. One of the relics recovered from this dig was a sandstone effigy pipe. It is badly deteriorated, but was created in a similar crested bird (duck) effigy. That pipe is housed at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. A brown siltstone Wood Duck effigy pipe, also fragmentary, was dug in Pike County, Illinois by Gregory Perino, research archaeologist for Northwestern University. This pipe was recovered from the Lawrence Gay Mound 10, located in the Mississippi bottoms one-half mile from the eastern bluffs in Pike County. This pipe is almost an exact shape duplicate except for the smaller size of the hooked beak. The Illinois Hopewell pipe has copper disc inlays for eyes and does not have the classic rounded curved base, seen on the Michigan pipe.

Featured on page 613 - figure 4 of George A. West's 1934 two volume publication, *Tobacco, Pipes, and Smoking Customs of the American Indians,* is a curved base Hopewell effigy pipe excavated from the Tremper Mound in Scioto County, Ohio, by the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society. The pipe is listed as a Wood Duck head with copper eyes and although its features are rounded and dull, it is an exact shape duplicate of the Grand Rapids Wood Duck. This pipe is housed at the Ohio State Museum. Two of the four known similar Wood Duck effigies have copper eye inlays. The animated Michigan pipes more than likely enjoyed this artistic addition.

Hopewell artform relics held an obvious important cultural meaning to their people. Through the study of their art we come closer to understanding them. It is through their art that they have perpetuated their culture long after they have gone. The graceful and colorful Wood Duck that long ago made his home along the Grand River, has been immortalized by a people that survived and flourished in prehistoric America now known as western Michigan.

MAP FACING PAGE

Map of Western Michigan showing the Hopewell Mound locations. The Hopewell association around Grand Rapids Michigan is called the Norton Mounds, named after Captain A.N. Norton, who owned the Norton mounds in the 1870's. Michigan archaeology lists Hopewell as the Goodall Focus and lists the Michigaqn Hopewell as an offshoot from the earlier Illinois portion of this culture, rather than the Ohio Hopewellian, which developed along somewhat different lines. The downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan Hopewell mounds and burial areas are called the Converse Component of the Goodall Focus.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THE GOODALL FOCUS

RELIC HUNTING WITH A METAL DETECTOR

By Clifford Lance, Michigan

Looking for coins and lost jewelry with a metal detector has long been a common practice. The discovery of some old fur trade items added a new dimension to my hobby of looking for lost metal objects. I've collected stone relics for years. The recent amount of fake relics offered for sale through the mails and at shows had killed my interest. The collecting fever was re-kindled with the idea that tons of relics from the old, early historic days were awaiting my mosquito bit leg work and the loud buzz of my trusty metal detector. The research done to locate a likely site is fun but finding a knife blade or ax head that was used by the pioneers to survive is the truly rewarding part. I've included 10 photos of my most recent finds along the shores of Lake Superior. I know that all the pictured relics are not real old (the two axe heads in photo #3 and #4 are late logging axes) but most of the relics are from the fur trade days. I included all my finds to show what one can expect to find on a typical historic site. The real prize is the knife pictured in photo #6. I found a knife just like it in an old book and its caption reads, "A knife blade with an ornamental cast brass handle and the distinctive "Cross-and-L" makers mark is illustrated below. Iron works bearing this stamp apparently originated in Sheffield, England and may have been traded through the channels of the competitive North West, XY and Hudson Bay companies from 1780 to the 1830's." I hope you enjoy looking at the metal relics of the past or I should say our past. Metal detecting is becoming more and more a part of archaeology and the careful documentation of each find is important. I've included a brief description and the length of each relic.

PHOTO #1

Item
1 - Axe (7.25x4)
2 - Musket flint holder (3)
3 - Brass finger ring (initials DI)
4 - Pewter Bell
5 - Eyeless fish hooks (3-5) each
6 - Harpoon (8.25)
7 - Harpoon (11)
8 - Knife (9)
9 - Knife (8)
10 - Knife (6.75) has makers mark MN?
11 - Pocket knife (3.75 closed)
12 - Fork (6)
13 - Use not known (3.75)
14 - Strike-a-lite (4.5)
15 - Strike-a-lite (2.75) incomplete
16 - Scissors (5)
17 - File (5)
18 - File (6)

PHOTO #2

Item
1 - Knife (9.75)
2 - File (6)
3 - Inletted axe cutting edge (5 high)
4 - Thimbles (top to bottom-Brass, steel, copper, brass) each
5 - Strike-a-lite (2.75)
6 - Strike-a-like (2.5)
7 - Lead-use unknown
8 - Brass-incomplete
9 - Lead
10 - Copper (1.5) ornamental, use unknown
11 - Sheet copper, possible arrowhead
12 - Buckles
a) pewter & iron (2)
b) iron (.75)
c) copper(2)
d) was silver plated (2)
e) Iron (2.5)
f) iron (1.75)
13 - Eyeless fish hook with attached lead weight (4)
14 - Eyeless fish hooks (3-4) each
15 - Lead disc with center hole (1.125)
16 - Iron Awls (3-4.25) each
17 - Part of 1720 French flintlock mechanism (6)

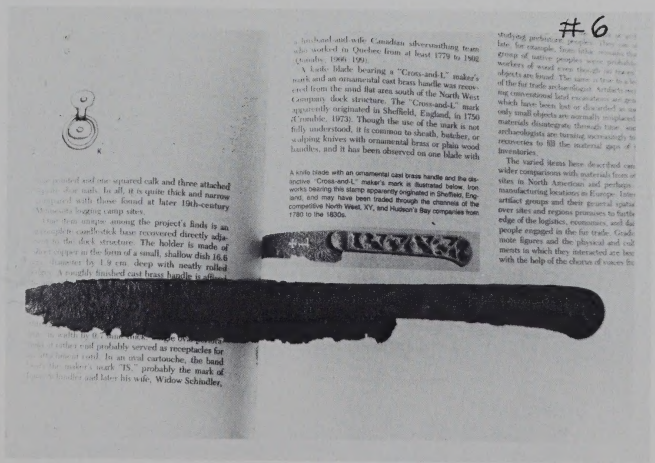


PHOTO #6

Knife - (9.5) has same cross but not the "L". Otherwise identical to illustration.

PHOTO #3

Axe (7x5)-makers mark MA?SHRSO

PHOTO #4

Axe (7x4.5) makers mark AST. STEEL

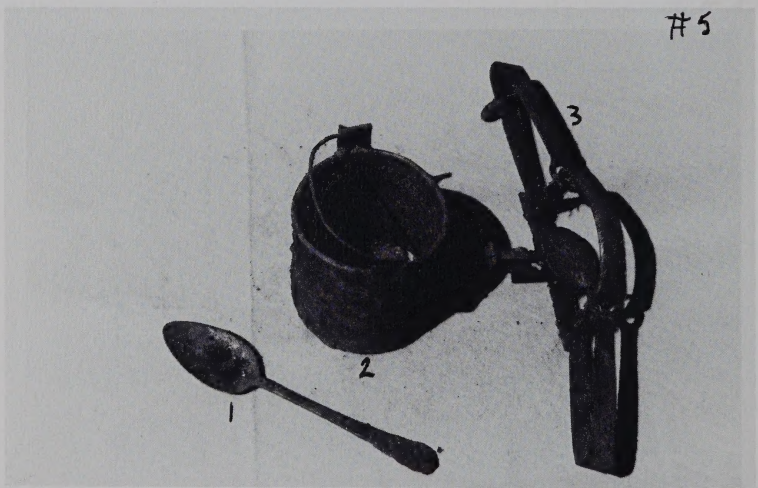


PHOTO #5

Item 1 - Spoon (8.75) most of silver plating intact, found in pot
2 - Iron pot (4.125 highx4.25 diam.) bottom partially rusted away
3 - Iron trap (14.5) makers mark

SINLEW HOUSE ??? COMMUNITY

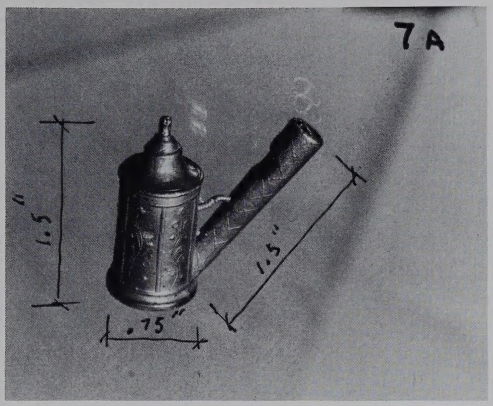


PHOTO #7 (a)

Pewter whistle (unique)

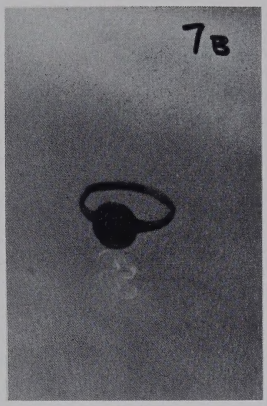


PHOTO #7 (b)

Jesuit convert ring-copper

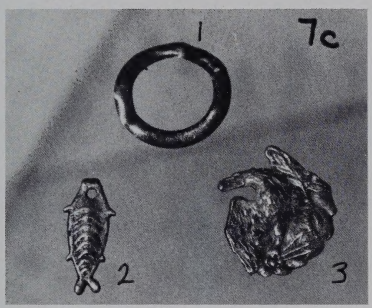


PHOTO #7 (c)

Item 1 - Sheet silver (.875) missing fastener
2 - Silver fish (1)
3 - Silver eagle (1)

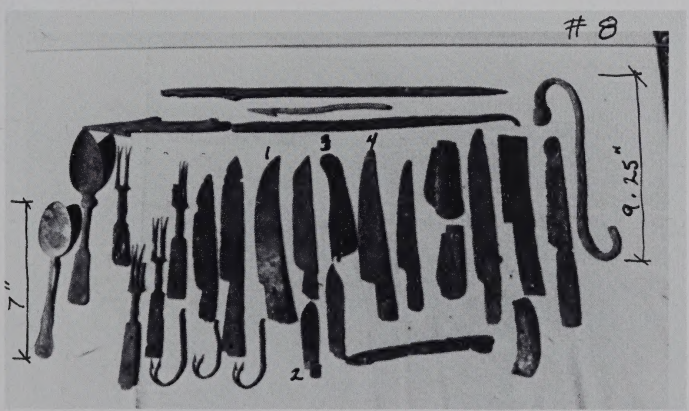
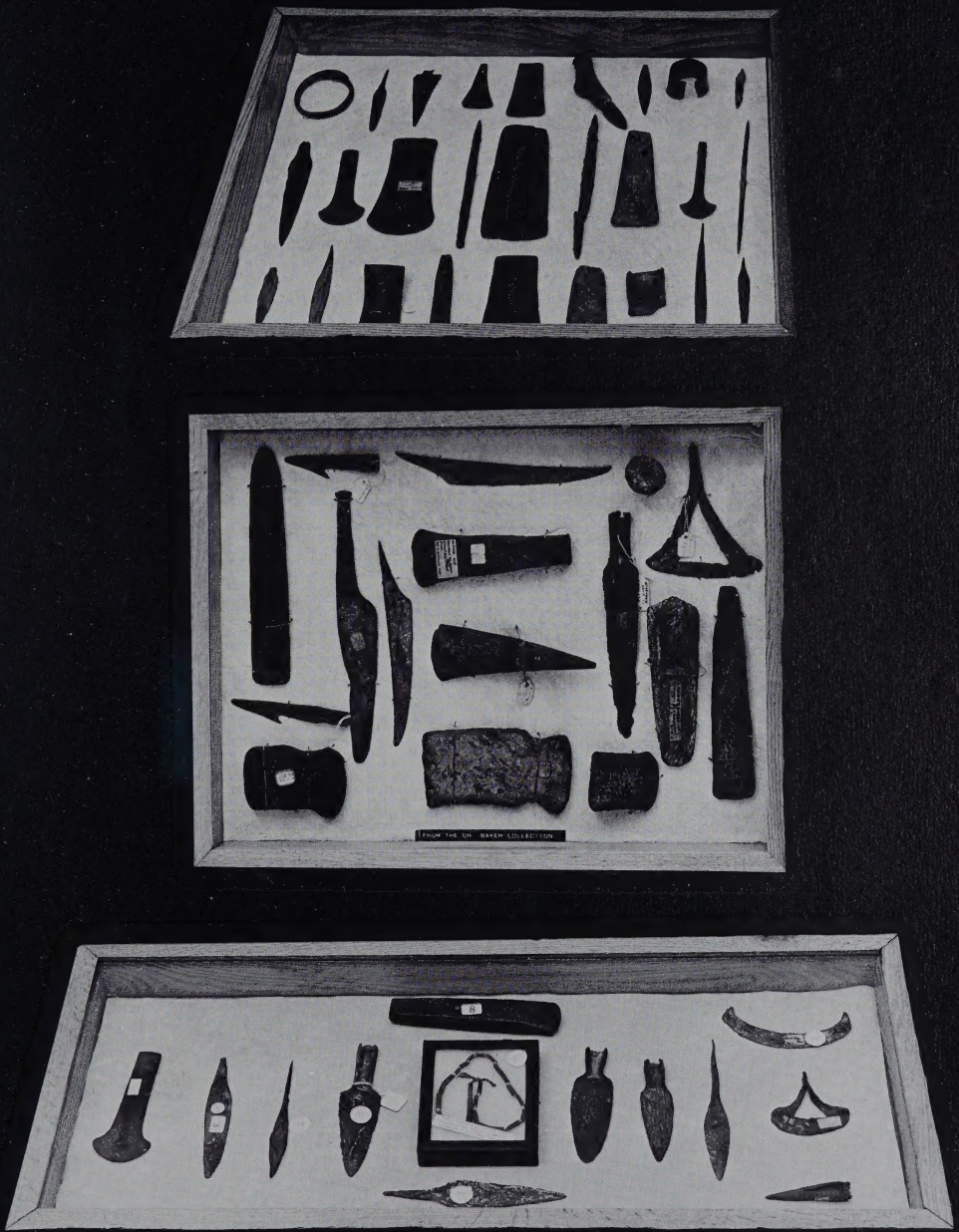


PHOTO #8

Item 1 - Knife (8)-makers mark ✝ W. STENTON
INDIAN KNE
2 - Pocket knife blade (3.5)-makers mark S. Gill
3 - Knife (5.25) makers mark BROOM
HEAD
4 - Knife (8.375) makers mark

Banded slate bannerstones, gorgets and pendants, hardstone bannerstones, Michigan barbed axes and a banded slate birdstone. Most were found in Michigan.

Collection of Ken Spaulding, Ionia, Michigan



Three of seven frames that make up one of the finest and one of the rarest and largest ancient copper collections in private hands. The center frame relics were all originally from the collection of Dr. Warren Baker, Michigan City, Indiana.

Collection of Ken Spaulding, Ionia, Michigan

Found at the Banks and Danner Site, Crittenden County, Arkansas (Now refered to as the Bradley Site).

INCIDENT AT BANKS AND DANNER

by Col. Jack C. Roberts

The highly sculptured human effigy pottery vessel on the facing page not only is a master crafted pottery artifact of an era several hundred years ago but also was involved in a humorous story often told by me to the delight of other collectors. This vessel is exquisite in every detail and was fashioned with the "Bradley Site" finish. The unique "barrel chested" male effigy is slightly over eight inches in height and has remarkable facial expressions. This effigy has been the bragging piece of several notable collectors and I'm sure the yet to be owners of the future will fondle this pottery water bottle with great admiration.

Now, I moved to Memphis, Tennessee, in the late forties about the time of the resurgence of digging by amateur collectors, semi-professionals and just plain country folks who dug and sold pottery vessels. This is not a paper to condemn or to condone digging, this is merely to relate to you how it was in those days. There is no need to kid ourselves about this situation, people have been digging for over a hundred years and they will continue as long as they are able to find anything. In the days of yesteryear when I first arrived here, comon pottery sold for one dollar, common effigy pottery sold for three dollars and painted pottery brought five dollars. A Human effigy sold for ten dollars. These pieces had to be free from pressure cracks, nibbed edges, etc. In other words perfect solid pottery.

The Banks and Danner Site attracted people from a vast area, the affluent collectors from the St. Louis area and a notable collector from East Tennessee were but a few who drove from tenant house to tenant house to seek what goodies they could buy or trade. Some made regular runs on certain days as did a collector named Roy Everson who lived in Memphis and worked as staff artist on the large Memphis newspaper. Mr. Everson was a frail man and had been plagued with ailments which prohibited him from doing the manual, hard work involved in digging. This physical handicap did not dampen his lust and desire for fine artifacts and when he would get the chance to add a fine piece to his collection he would just bubble with enthusiasm when he proudly displayed a new piece.

One Wednesday afternoon in late 1956 he by chance stopped at the tenant shack of a colored man named Williette Johnson, one of the local day labor workers who lived on the Banks and Danner Site. Williette was a surly, bug-eyed fellow with maybe a second grade education but was a gifted man when it came to using a probing rod. Mr. Everson inquired "Got any pots for sale?". Whereupon Williette nodded in the affirmative. Everson followed him in his house to a small bedroom in the back. There lined against one wall were about 20 pottery vessels including this beautiful human effigy. Everson's eyes bugged out about as bad as Johnson's were when he viewed this vessel and he immediately said in an excited voice "How much do you want?". Williette answered, "Thirty-five dollars.". Whereupon Everson whipped out his billfold, paid the man, grabbed up the human effigy and left. What Williette really meant was thirty-five dollars for all on the floor. Now, Williette didn't have any degree in economics but it didn't take long for him to know that human effigies were now worth thirty-five dollars and that trend continued for a few more years.

Wonder if this incident was the beginning of all our worldly problems with inflation?

A Prehistoric Collector at The Crib

By Don Champion, Tell City, Indiana

This information will either prove or disprove point type chronology and will let us know that we are not the first to collect Indian relics. In 1962 while on one of my authorized visits to the famous Crib Mound along the Ohio river in Spencer County, Indiana I discovered a burial of an adult male. About ½ of the mound had washed away into the flood waters of the Ohio at this time. The burial was at the bottom, center of the mound in heavy shell midden and dark heavy earth. The skeletal remains were in a flexed position. At the feet was a terrapin or land turtle shell rattle with white quartz pebbles inside and a large bird claw bone. In a pile with the shell and bone was the photographed projectile points. They were arranged in a manner as to indicate that they had been in a sack or pouch. I gave the turtle shell and bone bird claw to the University of Indiana and kept the points. A careful study of these points reveals that they belong to several different cultures according to point identification. The materials used are Indiana Hornstone, gray Kentucky flint, Ohio flintridge and Illinois white flint. As one can see from the photo several point types are represented, corner notch, side notch, fracture base, deep notch, Adena stemmed type and the typical triangular shaped point common to the Crib Mound. The large T drill was a reworked Archaic point. Corner and side notch points are very rare finds at the Crib. Was this man one of the first flint collectors? Are these types really related in time? Did his friends and family members each deposit one of their coveted flints at the interment? You be the judge. Several times in history relic finds in groups have indicated that the owner had collected stone tools and ceremonials of the past. I believe this is a recorded account of just that.

An assortment of dovetails. Left to right they are from Ohio, Allen County, Indiana, Clark County, Ohio, Preble County, Ohio, Bottom row, Crawford County, Ohio, Erie County, Ohio, Crawford County, Ohio, and Ohio.

Collection of William W. Tiell, Lakewood, Ohio

Four Ohio dovetails of the wide body small base type. These doves are all from Ohio and were fashioned from the black and gray Ohio flint. The second from the right is a dovetail drill.

Collection of Ken Black, Mt. Vernon, Ohio

Four exceptional Lost Lake-corner notched type points. These were all found on the banks of the Tennessee River in Hardin County, Tennessee. All show excellent workmanship and display a variety of colors from gray to brown to tan.

Wilkes Collection, Savannah, Tennessee

Assorted Spiro Mound Relics. LeFlore County, Oklahoma. Top row ear spools, the one on the right is made from cedar wood. Second and third rows display pipe stems and copper chunks with fabric imbeded in the copper. The fourth row displays two fosilized human fecal matter.

Collection of Gordon Hart, Bluffton,Indiana

This photo displays a group of fine axes collected by Dave Warner of Howe, Indiana over a period of 80 plus years. The Warner collection sold at an Estate auction in June, July and September 1983.

Don Boudeman of Kalamazoo, Michigan, (Birdstone collector - Refer to pages 8 and 9 of *Prehistoric Art, Birdstones*) collected 5 copper birdstones. Three of these appear to be just bird shaped pieces of flote copper. Two of the Boudeman specimens are worked native copper that is in the shape of the animal type birdstone. These two and the one pictured above are the only known examples of copper birdstones. This bird was found in Allegan County, Michigan in the 1930s by a farmer cultivating corn behind a mule drawn cultivator. It is the classic animal type birdstone shape. It is not drilled and I believe that the head was longer at one time. It appears to have been hammered out of a solid nugget with the nugget being folded over itself once in the center. The tail was worked to a slight flair a feature seen on some slate birdstones. Several other fine slate and hardstone Archiac relics have been found on the same farm.

Collection of George Espy, Allegan, Michigan

REQUEST FROM YOUR EDITOR

Future specialized issue plans include an Issue on Bannerstones and an issue on the Spiro Mound and its relics in private hands today. Please send your Bannerstone photos and any material from the Spiro Mound photos to John Baldwin, 6041 Lakeshore Dr., West Olive, Michigan 49460. We need this material as soon as possible so that these issues can be as nice as our special issues have been in the past. We are hoping to publish a special issue on the Ohio trophy ax in the near future. We also need general articles from you our readers for the regular issues. Getting your authentic relics pictured with their true information is the strongest thing you can do to fight fakes.

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Owned By Gordon Hart

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